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EXAMINER

VU, THANH T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2174

DATE MAILED: 07/29/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/531,016

Applicant(s)

EDLUND ET AL.

Examiner

Thanh T. Vu

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

This communication is responsive to Amendment A, Filed 1/24/03.

Claims 1-21 are pending in this application. In the Amendment A, claim 6 was amended.

This action is made Final.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Barnett et al.

("Barnett", U.S. Pat. No. 6,396,840).

Per claim 1, Barnett teaches a method of subscribing electronic calendar events to dynamic information providers comprising the steps:

receiving a calendar event (figs. 6);

determining one or more live information topics which are related to said calendar event (figs. 7A and 7B);

opening at least one subscription, each of said at least one subscription corresponding to one of said one or more live information topics (col.11, lines 28-31), and

incorporating, within said calendar event, a link to each of said at least one subscription (figs. 8 and 11).

Per claim 2, Barnett teaches a method of subscribing electronic calendar events to dynamic information providers, as per claim 1, comprising the additional step of parsing said calendar event to identify at least one event category (fig. 6; col. 9, lines 49-54).

Per claim 3, Barnett teaches a method of subscribing electronic calendar events to dynamic information providers, as per claim, wherein said at least one event category is used when determining said one or more live information topics (col. 9, lines 60-64).

Per claim 4, Barnett teaches a method of subscribing electronic calendar events to dynamic information providers, as per claim 1, comprising the additional step of parsing said calendar event to identify at least one event characteristic (col. 9, lines 55-59).

Per claim 5, Barnett teaches a method of subscribing electronic calendar events to dynamic information providers, as per claim 4, wherein said at least one event characteristic is used when determining said one or more live information topics (col. 9, lines 60-64).

Per claim 6, Barnett teaches a method of subscribing electronic calendar events to dynamic information providers, as per claim 1, wherein said step of opening at least one subscription further comprises: for each of said one or more live information topics, performing the steps: determining if a corresponding subscription already exists; if said corresponding subscription does not exist, creating and opening said corresponding subscription, and if said corresponding subscription does exist, then opening said corresponding subscription (fig. 15; col. 10, lines 15-22; col. 11, lines 3-7).

Per claim 7, Barnett teaches a method of subscribing electronic calendar events to dynamic information providers, as per claim 1, wherein said one or more information topics are published by an information service (col. 9, lines 60-64).

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Per claim 8, Barnett teaches a method of subscribing electronic calendar events to dynamic information providers, as per claim 1, wherein said one or more information topics are published as one or more topic channels (col. 9, lines 60-64).

Per claim 9, Barnett teaches a method of subscribing electronic calendar events to dynamic information providers, as per claim 1, further comprising the step: persistently storing, in computer storage, said calendar event (fig. 1A; col. 6, lines 14-16).

Per claim 10, Barnett teaches a method of subscribing electronic calendar events to dynamic information providers, as per claim 1, wherein said method is implemented locally or remotely on one or more computer-based systems (col. 3, lines 1-5).

Per claim 11, Barnett teaches a method of subscribing electronic calendar events to dynamic information providers, as per claim 1, wherein said method is implemented across networks comprising any of LANs, WANs, cellular, Internet, or Web-based networks (col. 3, lines 1-5).

Per claim 12, Barnett teaches A method for linking calendar events to live information topics comprising the steps:

receiving a calendar event (fig. 6);

determining a set of topic names associated with said calendar event (figs. 7A and 7B);

for each particular topic name in said set of topic names, performing the following steps:
determining if a topic channel exists for said particular topic name; if said topic channel does not exist, then creating a corresponding topic channel; if said topic channel does exist, then identifying said topic channel as a corresponding topic channel, and adding said corresponding topic channel to a set of topic channels (fig. 15; col. 10, line 15-22; col. 11, lines 3-7);

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for each particular topic channel in said set of topic channels, creating a link, in said calendar event, to said particular topic channel (figs. 8 and 11), and persistently storing said calendar event (fig. 1A; col. 6, lines 14-16).

Per claim 13, Barnett teaches a method for linking calendar events to live information topics, as per claim 12, wherein said step of determining a set of topic names further comprises the steps: extracting from said calendar event one or more event descriptors, and determining, based on said one or more event descriptors, said set of topic names (figs. 7A; col. 9, lines 60-64).

Per claim 14, Barnett teaches a method for linking calendar events to live information topics, as per claim 13, wherein said one or more event descriptors are event categories (col. 9, lines 54-59).

Per claim 15, Barnett teaches a method for linking calendar events to live information topics, as per claim 13, wherein said 2 one or more event descriptors are event characteristics (col. 9 lines 54-59).

Per claim 16, Barnett teaches a method for linking calendar events to live information topics, as per claim 12, wherein said method is implemented across networks comprising any of LANs, WANs, cellular, Internet, or Web-based networks (col. 3, lines 1-5).

Per claim 17, Barnett teaches a method for linking calendar events to live information topics, as per claim 12, wherein said method is implemented locally or remotely on or more computer-based systems (col. 3, lines 1-5).

Per claim 18, Barnett teaches a subscription system which subscribes electronic calendar events to live information topics comprising:

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a calendar event ; a plurality of topic channels (fig. 6);

a mapper which determines a list of topic names related to said calendar event (fig. 7A and 7B);

a locator which identifies a set of topic channels corresponding to said list of topic names, said locator further identifies at least a first and second subset of said set of topic channels; said first subset is populated by topic channels which currently exist within said calendar system; said second subset is populated by topic channels which currently do not exist within said calendar system; a channel creator which creates, within said calendar system, a topic channel for each element of said second subset, (fig. 15; col. 10, lines 13-22) and linker which incorporates in said calendar event a link to at least one element of said set of topic channels (fig. 8 and 11).

Per claim 19, Barnett teaches a subscription system which subscribes electronic calendar events to live information topics, as per claim 18, wherein said mapper also extracts at least one event category for said calendar event which said mapper uses to determine said list of topic names (fig. 7A and 7B; col. 9, lines 60-64).

Per claim 20, Barnett teaches subscription system which subscribes electronic calendar events to live information topics, as per claim 18, wherein said mapper also extracts at least one event characteristic for said calendar event which said mapper uses to determine said list of topic names (fig. 7A and 7B; col. 9, lines 60-64).

Claim 21 is similar in scope to claim 1 and therefore is rejected under similar rationale.

Response to Arguments

Applicants' arguments in the Amendment A have been fully considered but are not persuasive.

Applicant's primary argument is that Barnett does not disclose "incorporating, within said calendar event, a link to a subscription; parsing a calendar event to identify at least one event category; at least one event category used when determining one or more live information topic; determining if a corresponding subscription already exists; creating and opening a corresponding subscription; information topics published by an information service or one or more topic channels; and determining a set of topic names associated with a calendar event." The examiner does not agree because Barnett clearly shows incorporating, within said calendar event, a link to a subscription (figs 8 and 11); parsing a calendar event to identify at least one event category (fig. 6; col. 9, lines 49-54); at least one event category used when determining one or more live information topic (col. 9, lines 60-64); determining if a corresponding subscription already exists, creating and opening a corresponding subscription (fig. 15; col. 10, lines 15-22; col. 11, lines 3-7); information topics published by an information service or one or more topic channels (col. 9, lines 60-64; col. 10, lines 11-22); and determining a set of topic names associated with a calendar event (Fig. 7A and 7B).

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

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A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Inquiries

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh T. Vu whose telephone number is (703)-308-9119. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur and every other Fri 8:30 AM - 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine L. Kincaid can be reached on (703) 308-0640. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)-746-7239 for regular communications and (703)-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

T. Vu
July 23, 2003

Kristine Kincaid
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